

Northern Region QI Committee

May 27, 2009

Minutes

Present:	Daryl Melton	Sally Jones	Carol Baumann
	Pam Nacario	Joyce Booth	Sarah Pomeroy
	Pam Clark	Rhett Fronk	Eileen Nicholas
	Teresa Fowers	Patty Conner-Rose	Craig Monson
	Pam Hugie	Sally Jones	Pam Clark
	Dan Webster	Jeff Tesch	Stacy Synder
	Debee Gold	Linda Melton	Susan Anderson
	Sylvia Cobabe	Pat Ropelato	Nicki Taylor
Absent:	Brenda Durtschi	Jean Marie Morris	Mary Francisco
	Nancy Card	Pat Milar	Estelle Dahlkemper
	Bob Burch	Lynell Packer	Landon Halverson
	John Rice	Sherri Engar	Crystal Atwood
Guest:	Jennifer Larson		

Review Last Month's minutes

- Carol is still communicating with attorneys regarding searches. Although it doesn't look like we will go that direction due to too many barriers.
- Patty did invite an adoptive mother she knows to be part of this committee. Her name is Susan Anderson.
- Sally Jones is still trying to make connections with someone from the Standard Examiner to attend this meeting. Her connection has said she still intends to write a story regarding the QI committee. Sally will invite Marsela Martina to the June meeting.

Daryl

- Immersion Day: We will be holding another one again this Fall. DCFS has been contacted by a proctor agency that would like to attend. Dixie Scott at Tristin has made the request. **Jennifer Larson will contact Dixie to see what they were looking for in terms of training and will report back in June.**
- Proportion of Home Based & Foster Care Cases: Handout. Within the last 9 years, the trend is there are more children staying in foster care caes than are going in home cases. There are most likely several reasons why. Carol will ask that the post adoption cases be removed and then rerun the numbers .
- Quarterly Data: Handout. Discussed the numbers regarding the average months in care for children exiting by goal. It's very apparent that children are not moving

out of the system in a timely manner. This region however, is the only region that has decreased the number of foster care cases over the last year. Discussed info regarding removal information. This chart shows the number of removals from CPS as well as court ordered removals. There are many circumstances where the courts will order a removal, it would not have been a case that met CPS criteria for removal.

Permanency/Barriers - Discussion

- Debee Gold reports that Lisa Michelle Church is pushing to use Family Resource Facilitators which will be used as advocates for the families that are trying to get their children back. These are families that have already gone through the system and have had successful outcomes. The facilitators average about 19 hours a week and are paid a small amount each month for their services. DBH just hired 2.
- Some barriers to children returning home may be that the family members are struggling with court orders, IE. counseling, drug treatment, etc. Transportation is a barrier a lot of the time.
- Foster parents should be given more information regarding the case when they are asked to attend family team meetings. Many times they feel left out of the loop.
- Sometimes parents feel alone in their struggles when children are placed in their homes.
- Foster parents should be thinking more at the beginning of a placement about the permanent/permanency outcome for these children, whether it be adoption or the child going back home. Not just simply being a 'babysitter' while the child is placed with them.

Pam Clark

- Pam has written a request for a pilot program to work with 10 cases that DCFS refers to them regarding locating kin for youth about to age out of the system. This will be attached to the transitional counseling at the Family Support Center.
- Pam has heard that there may be stimulus monies available for such projects. **She will continue to gather information on this.**

Craig Monson

Sub Committee-Foster Parent Retention

- The question has been raised regarding how to retain foster parents. The committee Craig has put together has created a survey for Foster Parents to fill out. The Utah Foster Care Foundation already has a similar survey in place. **Jennifer Larson will check with them regarding their survey and how well has it worked. Craig will report back next month with the info he's received from his survey.** His survey will focus more on the number of disrupted placements vs. the Foster Care Foundation's survey which focuses on foster parents leaving the system all together and why.

Next meeting is June 24th at 9:00.